Scarcity of small coins.

6. **Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the insufficiency of (change) small coins is being felt by them;

(*b*) whether it has become difficult and often impossible to get change from the sub-treasuries of the State for even one rupee; and

(*c*) if this is a fact, what action have they taken to solve the problem?

Mr. A. Lakshminarayana Ayyar (*Financial Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Government are aware that some difficulty is being experienced by the public on account of the insufficiency of small coins. The position has however improved from what it was about three or four months back owing to the issue of small silver coins obtained through the Bombay Mint and copper coins minted locally.

(*b*) & (*c*) Every possible attempt is being made to replenish the Treasuries of the State with small coins to the utmost extent available. Steps have been taken to obtain a fresh supply of silver coins from the Bombay Mint and to mint copper coins at the local Mint in larger quantities, a large stock of copper blanks having been received now. When these small coins are put into circulation the small coin problem will be solved to a very large extent.

Construction of school buildings.

7. **Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount sanctioned for the construction of the school buildings opposite the Corporation building in the City of Trivandrum; and

(*b*) the amount spent till the end of Medom 1118 for the purpose?

Mr. I. C. Chacko (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Irrigation and Miscellaneous*): (*a*) Rs. 20,000.

(*b*) Rs. 17,875.

Irrigation Section of the P. W. D.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Will the Government be pleased to state when it was that the Irrigation Section of the P. W. D. was stopped?

Mr. I. C. Chacko: Irrigation Division was stopped on 1-1-1115. All Irrigation Sections except at Muvattupuzha are attending to Irrigation Works. Muvattupuzha now comes under the Lift Irrigation Scheme.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly